Sectt. II-27—104,006—

DEV (1951) Departmen

MS SERIES.

G.O. NO. 679	38
Dated 14. 2-51	

Pass

Hyr Sup

WB

[Despatch Abstract.]

Forest Lands. Coimbatore dr- Kollegal Div Udayavahalli R.F- 1000 acres- Disused for Cultivation - Experimental Cultivation 1000 acres thro'. Co-op. Colonisation Society etc Orders- Passed.

HON. MR. J. L. P. ROCHE-VICTORIA
MINISTER FOR FOOD AND FISHERIES

FORT ST. GEORGE
MADRAS

67306

Camp: Courtallam,
15th July 1960.

FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY
22 JUL 1960

Dear Sri Sanjiva Reddi,

I enclose a copy of a representation from Reverend Father Raynaud of Marthalli, Kollegal Taluk, sent through the Collector of Coimbatore. I visited the village sometime last month accompanied by the Registrar of Cooperative Societies, the District Forest Officer, Revenue Divisional Officer and others. The village lies far out of the way and is not accessible except by a jeep. The villagers there are sunk in poverty and ignorance. I was therefore all the more impressed by the tremendous enthusiasm shown by the Rev. Father in regard to the uplift of the villagers. I would recommend his request to your earnest consideration and shall be glad if you can find your way to help him. I shall be grateful if the file can be circulated to me before orders issue.

Yours sincerely,

Hon. Sri N. Sanjiva Reddi,
Minister for Prohibition,
Fort St. George.

Regd

Marthalli.
Date. 21-6-50.

From

Rev. Fr. G. Raynaud,
Marthalli.

Kollegal Tk
Coimbatore Dt

To

The Hon'ble Minister for Food,
Ft. St. George, Madras.

Through,

The Collector of Coimbatore District,
Coimbatore.

Through

The Revenue Divisional Officer,
Kollegal.

Honoured Sir,

On behalf of the villagers of Marthalli, Kollegal Taluk, Coimbatore District, I wish to represent the following for your Honours' kind consideration and favourable orders:-

1. The Marthalli village is situated 34 miles from Kollegal and is connected by a road maintained by the Highways Department. About 30 years back this village was a barren piece of land inhabited by a few Sivachars, Lambadies and Harijans with small holdings mostly neglected. When the Mettur Dam in the Salem District was constructed, several persons whose lands were acquired for the purpose of the reservoir migrated to this village batch by batch, took up cultivation and settled with their families and relations. Some of them purchased sites from the existing pattadars with the money they got from the Government by way of compensation. Some took up sivajama lands. Being used to hard labour and trained in efficient cultivation, they converted this village into fine fields, planted trees, dug wells and raised crops. At present the village has a population of 4272 persons of whom 2434 members consisting of 472 families have no lands and are living on daily wages. They do not get work every day and what they earn during cultivation season is not sufficient for their maintenance throughout the year. They are now in a state of despair

P.T.O.

When they were displaced from their villages in the Salem district on account of Mettur-Dam erection, they were promised by the Government that the cultivable forest land in the Marthalli village would be granted to them in the BLOCKS, A, B, and C. Yet they have not been given a portion of the forest land even in block A. So far. Owing to the lapse of long time they are unable to produce these orders of the Government now. They say that when they agitated for lands some time back they handed over the orders in originals to the then Officials. If the Government feel any doubt about this statement, the original records relating to the Dam and acquisition of lands for that purpose may kindly be referred to. I had these papers in hand 5 years ago and they disappeared from my Bungalow during my stay in France in 47--48.

2. The Marthalli village extends to 3496 acres of Government lands of which 3000 acres are cultivated. The remaining 496 acres are unfit for any improvement as they are full of rocks and big stones. Adjoining this village on the west there is a vast forest comprising of several thousand acres of which 4000 acres are cultivable. This lies in Mahadeswaramalai R.F. bounded by a line joining Bagli Betta in the North, Western Boundary of Marthalli enclosures in the South, and the Common boundary between M.Malai R.F. and Udayarahalli R.F. in the West. These 4000 acres of land consist of thorny bushes and small shrubs. There are not trees which can be utilised for the timber; nor are there any sandalwood trees. Two feet below the surface there is hard rock and no trees can be grown. So The lands are of no use to the Forest Department as big trees cannot be grown there. On the other hand, if it is dis-forested and allowed to be cultivated by the landless poor labourers from Mettur Dam, foodgrains can be got in abundance thereby solving the food problem in the Taluq on which the Government are so keen. Apart from this 4000 acres of forest, there is a vast forest land on a high level surrounding the village on all sides which will attract rains as usua and the flow of water to the Mettur reservoir will not in any way be affected.

P.T.O.

3. These labourers having come and settled with their friends and relations several years back are very reluctant to leave this village and migrate to other parts of the taluk now where unreserved forest lands are available. The climate of the village is the same as that of Mettur-their original home-and the soil yeilds good results. It would be adding to their miseries, if they are asked to leave this village now. They have been agitating for land since the last 15 years and it is matter of regret that the Government did not take up the matter seriously. Their condition is fast deteriorating. The Honourable Minister for Food has been so kind as to visit the village with the authorities of the Co-Op. and the Forest Departments on 19.6.50 and see the plight of the villagers in person. The fact that 5 thousands of poor people assembled eagerly at noon to represent their grievances to the Minister speaks for itself that they are in dire need of relief from the Government. The vast fields with green crop are also a proof that these labourers will help the Government in their "GROW MORE FOOD" schemes.

4. In these circumstances, I request the Government to be pleased to dis-forest sufficient forest land and assign to the landless labourerers either individually or through the agency of the Co-operative Department. In case, the Government feel that they cannot take away the entire block of 4000 acres just now at least 3000 acres may be assigned now for 450 families. so as to relieve their distress and give work and happiness to those unfortunate people, who gave away their lands 35 years ago to irrigate the Tanjore Paddy fields.

P. Raymond

Vicar, Marthalli R.C. Church.

Copy submitted to the Registrar of Co-Op.Societies (Resettlement) Madras.

Copy submitted to the Chief Conservator of Forest. through the District Forest Officer, Kollegal.

ER 20.8.50 / NR 20.5.50 / B 208/50

Dcu (Cu)

Endt. No. 67306 Cu/50-1 Dt 29.7.50

Referred to the C.F. for remarks in Consultation with C.E. (Elec)

C.E. (Elec) 29.7.50 29.7.50

From:
Sri, K. Subrahmanyam Nayudu, M.A.,
Registrar of Cooperative Societies,
(Resettlement) 10, Sterling Road,
Madras-6.

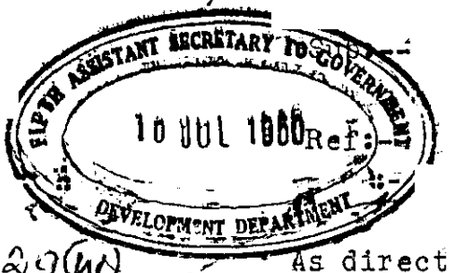
To:
The Secretary to Government,
Development Department,
rt St. George,
Madras.

R.C. 4656/50 GII

Dated 12-7-50.

Sir,

64289



Cooperative Colonisation Schemes--Formation of a Colonisation Society at Marthalli village, Kollegal Taluk, Coimbatore District--Proposals.
Development Department memorandum No.52469 C.I/50 dated 13-6-50.

As directed in paragraph 2 of the Government Memorandum cited, I accompanied the Hon'ble Minister for Food and Fisheries to inspect the tract of forest land in the Marthalli village, Kollegal Taluk, which is proposed to be brought under cultivation. The District Forest Officer, the Revenue Divisional Officer, Tahsildar, Rev. Fr. G. Raynand and a few others were also present. A very large number of the villagers assembled there and made representations to the Hon'ble Minister to provide them with lands for cultivation. They expressed their present difficulties in maintaining their families and themselves.

2. The village consists of 782 families, mostly persons it is said, who migrated from the Mettur area at the time of the construction of the Dam. It is represented that many of them owned bits of lands in the surrounding villages which were sub-merged in the reservoir and that they had therefore to leave their villages and migrate to places where there was land available for cultivation. Some of them who got compensation in the Mettur area, purchased lands in the Marthalli village and are cultivating them. Only about 65 ryots own patta lands to the extent of 300 acres. It is gathered that many others are occupying Government waste lands (about 3000 acres) under sivajama conditions. Yet many more are still without any land to cultivate. Some work as agricultural labourers, some are unemployed and idle and there is no possibility of these men taking up any other occupation. They are said to be good agriculturists, hard working and sincere in their work. The villagers represented that they migrated to Marthalli on the promise of the authorities that they would give them land for cultivation though they are not in a position to produce any ~~worker~~ written evidence to this effect.

3. Marthalli village is 34 miles to the east of Kollegal and is connected by bus route for 25 miles and the remaining 9 miles are forest route. An extent of about 3500 acres of land belong to Government and of this 3000 acres which are fit for cultivation, are already under sivajama occupation. The remaining 500 acres are quite unfit for cultivation. Adjoining these lands, an extent of 4000 acres of reserve forest lands is available. The present representation of the villagers is that this extent of forest land may be disreserved and assigned to them for cultivation. This land contains only shrubs and very small trees. It is said that the surface soil is only about 2 or 3 feet deep, that it is rocky below, that no big trees as in any regular forest can grow and that disreservation of this area will not be opposed to Government policy. When the shrubs and the small trees are cleared the land can be brought under dry cultivation immediately. It is said that these lands were actually under cultivation several years ago. The forest department is, however, not favour of dis-reserving the area and giving it to the villagers for cultivation on the ground that it might affect rain-fall. The possible consideration seems to be that the area is not a thick forest with big trees and that the disreservation might not affect the monsoon. As a measure of caution, it was suggested that an extent of 1000 acres might be dis-reserved for the present and taken up for cultivation by the villagers through a cooperative colonisation society. The Hon'ble

p.t.o.

Ministery was also of the same opinion. The clearance of shrub jungle and reclamation work are not likely to involve huge capital cost to Government or the colonists. The cost of sinking a well in the place is estimated to be about Rs.3000 to Rs.4000/-. But well-sinking will have to be taken up gradually and no capital for this purpose is necessary at present. The soil is considered to be good for dry crops such as, Kambu, Cholam, Chilles etc., The colonists may have to be provided with the usual financial assistance in the shape of free grants and interest-free loans for the purchase of bulls, implements, manure, seeds etc and also for reclamation work. An extent of atleast 5 acres may have to be allotted to each member and if 1000 acres are taken up immediately about 200 families can be settled. I shall, if necessary, work out the full details of the scheme including the cost on receipt of instructions from Government.

4. At the time of the Hon'ble Minister's visit to the village, the possibilities of giving lands to the people in other places in the taluk were also discussed. The villagers, however, were against the idea of migrating to other villages where waste lands might be available. Having come and settled in the village with their families, friends and relations several years ago they are unwilling to leave it and settle in other villages. They also represented that the climate in those villages would not suit them and that they would not leave Marthalli.

5. The Hon'ble Minister, after hearing the representations of the villagers, requested Rev. Fr. G. Raynand, the local parish prest to submit a petition to Government detailing all the points discussed with him by the Hon'ble Minister. I have received a copy of his petition dated 21-6-50 which has been submitted to the Food Department through the District Collector, Coimbatore and the Revenue Divisional Officer, Kollegal. On receipt of Government orders on the petition, I shall proceed further in the matter, if necessary.

Yours faithfully,

for Registrar.

Copy submitted to the Secretary to Government,
Food Department, Fort St. George,
Madras.

112
18/9

11

Issue wt
16.10.50

Dev. B II

Memo. No. 64289 B II/50-4 dated 16.9.50

Sub: Co-operative Colonisation Schemes – formation of a Colonisation Society at Marthalli village, Kollegal Taluk, Coimbatore Dt. – Proposal.

Ref: 1 & 2 – From the R.C.S., Rc. No. 4656/50-G.II d. 12.7.50

A copy of the Registrar's letter cited is communicated to the Collector of Coimbatore. He is requested to submit to Govt with his remarks the petition from Rev. Fr. A. Raynaud dated 21.6.50 referred to in para 5 of the Regr's letter.

Encl: Cf

To

The Collr. of Coimbatore (w.e)

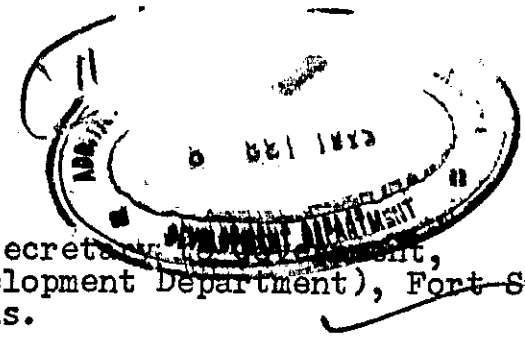
13.9.50

14/9/50

C.P.G.
16.9.50

Copy to R.C.S.
N.R. 12.10.'50

MD 1-22F
for R. Esquly
14



13
64289

From
Sri V.N.Rajan, I.C.S.,
Collector of Coimbatore.

To
The Secretary to Government,
(Development Department), Fort St.George,
Madras.

Ref.23821/50 d/28-9-50.

99837

Sir,

Sub: Forests - Reserved Forests - Coimbatore District - Kollegal Taluk - Marhalli village -Disreservation - Rev. Fr. G.Raynand Petition -Report.

Ref: Government's Memo 64289/B-11 50 -4 dated 16-9-50.

-o-

Rev. Fr. G.Raynand, put in a petition on 21-6-50, on behalf of the Marthalli ryots, and requested the Government to disafforest an extent of about 4000 acres in Morthalli Reserved Forest for eventual assignment to landless poor persons. The District Forest Officer, Kollegal strongly objected to the disafforestation. The Board of Revenue did not recommend the disreservation of forests commended by the Collector for political sufferers and the disreservation of this block will cause dissatisfaction among the political sufferers.

2. The matter was fully discussed in this Office L.Dis.16195/49 dated 28-7-50 (please see pages 8 and 9 N.F.) and the petitioner informed on 28-7-50, that the question of disreservation of the 'Reserved Forest' area could not be taken up and that the lands available in waste-blcoks of Kollegal Taluk might be applied for.

3. The connected records are enclosed for favour of perusal and return.

For Collector.

Enclosure. Collector's L.Dis.16195/49 (By R.P)

Copy submitted to the Board of Revenue for favour of information.

rvn 29950.

15

MADRAS FOREST DEPARTMENT.

***

Ref.No.14247/50.C4. dated 18-10-50.

From
Sri M. Kesavan Unni Nayar, I.F.S.,
Chief Conservator of Forests,
M A D R A S-2.

To
The Secretary to Government,
Development Department,
Fort St. George, MADRAS-9.

Sir,

ADDITIONAL ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
26 OCT 1950
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

105986

Sub: FOREST LANDS - Udayarahalli Reserved Forest 4000 acres - Kollegal Division assignment - Request of Rev.Fr.G. Raynaud.

Ref: Government Endorsement No.67306 CII/50-1, Development dated 29-7-50.

A copy of the report dated 27-8-50 from the District Forest Officer, Kollegal with the remarks of the Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore Circle is herewith submitted.

The petitioner asks for the disreservation of 4000 acres in Madeswaramalai Reserved Forest for extension of cultivation. This is an important catchment area of streams running into the Cauvery river which finds its way into the Mettur reservoir. Clearing of forests in such an area cannot be thought of. The displaced persons were allotted lands by extensive disreservation elsewhere. The District Forest Officer points out that some of these lands have already changed hands to rich capitalists and that there are some capitalists owning 50-100 acres of lands in Omelur Taluk who have settled down in Marthahalli who are behind this petition and are waiting for an opportunity to acquire more lands. There are vast extents of unreserved lands in Kollegal Taluk for which the petitioners may apply to the Revenue Department. The Conservator is also opposed to disreservation. Further, the petitioners request had already been rejected by the Collector of Coimbatore who advised them to apply for lands in waste blocks if they desired.

In the circumstances I have not consulted the Chief Engineer(Irrigation). The petition may be rejected.

Encl: D.F.Os letter
Mr 17-1 Conservator's Endorsement
Mr 19 Sketch

D.V. Nagarathnam 24.10.50

NSV.24/x. FOR CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS.

Enclosure.

Copy of letter C.No.1694/50.D. dated 27-8-1950 from the District Forest Officer, Kollegal to the Chief Conservator of Forests, Madras through the Conservator of Forests, Coimbatore Circle.

Sub: DISAFFORESTATION - Forest lands - Assignment - Petition of Rev. Fr. G. Raynaud - report submission of.

Ref: Chief Conservator's Ref.No.14247/50.C4. dated 31-7-50.

Mr 19 Collector

A sketch showing the configuration of land applied for is herein enclosed for favour of perusal. It will be seen from the sketch that the land in question is undulating country and not level. Two big streams run through the area which jointly form martalli stream which drain itself to Palar whihh finally joins the river Cauvery to form the Stanley Reservoir.

(p.t.o)

16

The size of the two streams on the area in question and their present semi-perennial nature speak to itself on the fallacy of our past actions in disafforestation both at Martalli and Bitharalli a neighbouring enclosure. I understand that the water table has been falling down year after year and water is going very deep in the wells. The reason is quite apparent and is certainly due to the large disafforestation already made and bad hacking of the adjacent hill slopes by these settlers.

Generally all the results of conservation of Forests is not felt on the plateaus but the rich crops we harvest in the plains stretching from the foot of these plateaus are solely dependent on what we do on the plateaus. Thus if we confine ourselves to these enclosures on the plateau and go on disafforesting and destroying forest growth the plains below are bound to suffer. Besides this particular area being in the catchment area of the Palar basin it vitally affects the Stanley Reservoir on which the Government has banked its faith and irrigating large areas. Thus any disafforestation on these plateaus will be on short sighted policy.

The Madras State has only about 12½% of its area under forest cover. The importance of raising to at least 20% and thus safe guard the future prosperity of the country is the policy of the Government evidenced by "VanaMahotsava". The importance of increasing the forest area is well understood and the fate of any such forest area not under the direct control and management of the forest department, is also well known to all from what has happened to Panchayat forests.

The applicant's plea that the villagers lost their land in the Mettur Dam, cannot be accepted at this late stage as genuine as it is already about 20 years since the Mettur Dam was constructed. The Government disreserved nearly about 4000 acres of land in Pachapali North Bargur Reserved Forest and Lakkampatti Reserves, besides about 12000 to 15000 acres of lands on the opposite bank of Cauvery on the Dharmapuri-Mecheri side. Some lands were also disreserved at Gopinatham in this division. All these lands were allotted to those who lost their lands in the stanley Reservoir. The Government have ordered that these men should be allotted in the above said areas at the rate of 5 acres per head. This has been further clarified in G.O.No.1901 Revenue dated 12-7-49. The real truth is that many of these exodus people of Cauvery bank were allotted lands in the above mentioned disreserved areas but they sold such lands to some capitalists for gain with the idea of seeking more lands elsewhere. There are also some capitalists who have each about 50 to 100 acres of lands in Omalur Taluk settled down in these parts. They are behind this petition, so that they could forcibly squat and grab a big slice immediately some allotment is made. Such instances have happened in the Lakkampatty area and the Revenue Department has not yet succeeded in throwing out such unauthorised occupants.

There are vast lands, I understand lying follow in the unreserves of this Taluk and if the villagers of Martalli are really in need of land it will be very wise thing to move them up to apply for those lands to Revenue Authorities.

I therefore submit that in the interest of the public in general, no more disreservation should be made anywhere in the plateau.

I further submit that a similar petition was sent to the Collector of Coimbatore for the above lands, which was rejected by him on the remarks offered by my predessor (copy of Collector's order is enclosed for favour of information).

17

Copy of Proceedings of the District Magistrate, Coimbatore, L.Dis.16195/49. dated 28-7-50.

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Sub: Assignment - Land - Kollegal taluk - lands - disafforestation, of Forest lands - Near Marthalli - proposals - orders passed.

Read: 1. D.Dis.No.1790/49 dated 5-12-49 of the District Forest Officer, Kollegal.
2. Report Ref.2006/50.D. dated 15-6-50 and dated 6-7-50 of the Revenue Divisional Officer, Kollegal.

--

In the circumstances stated by the District Forest Officer, Kollegal in his D.Dis. cited above, the proposals for disreservation of lands for the settlers in and around Marthalli and dropped. The settlers may be advised to apply for lands in waste blocks in Kollegal Taluk.

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Endorsement on Kollegal Forest Officer's Ref.No.1694/50.D. dated 27-8-1950 to the Chief Conservator of Forests.

Ref.No.1882/50.D. dated 19-9-50.

Forwarded.

2. It may be seen from District Forest Officer's report that the disafforestation of the land applied for is opposed to Forest Conservancy and requires no consideration. Evidently for this and other reasons stated in District Forest Officer's report the Collector Coimbatore on a similar petition, has

P.T.O.

18

has passed orders in his L.Dis. 16195-49 dated 28-7-50, to drop the proposals for disreservation of lands for the settlers in and around Marthalli and, has also advised the settlers to apply for lands in waste blocks in Kollegal taluk. Under the circumstances, I submit that in the larger interests of the country the Government may be requested to reject the petitioner's request.

3. A sketch of the area applied for is enclosed in duplicate.

(True Copy)

D.V. Nagaraja Rao
25.10.50

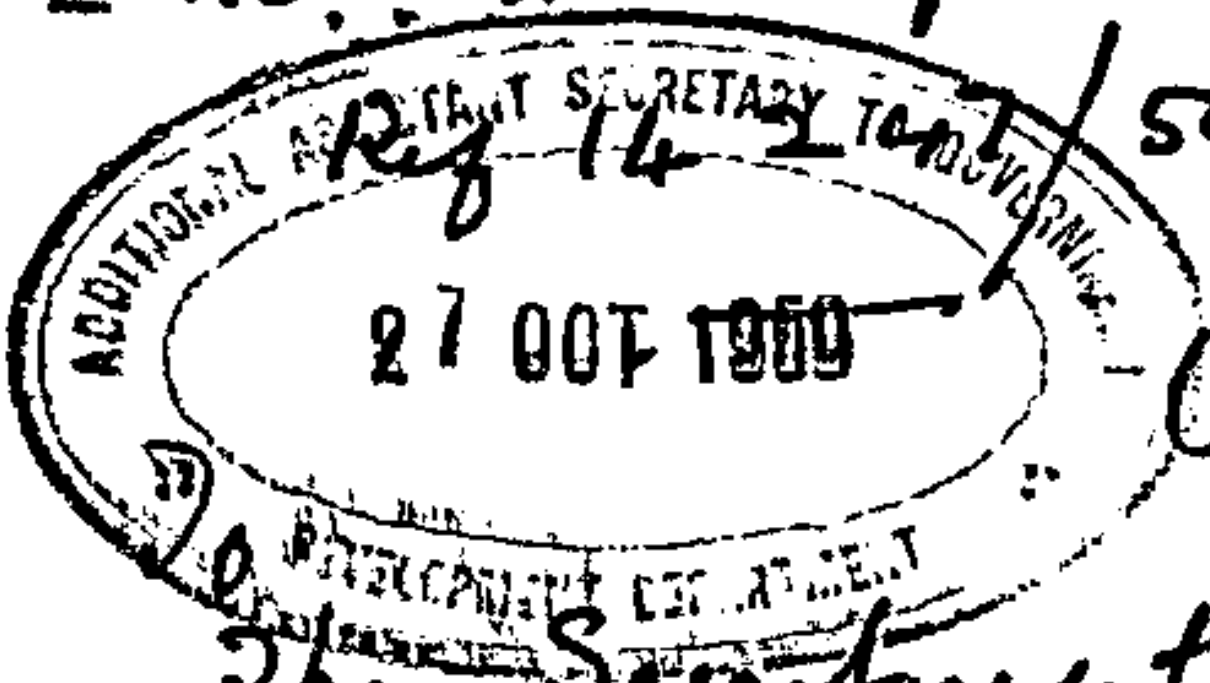
NSV.24/x.

FOR CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS.

6730/50

Encl to Chief Conservation

Ref 14 Tomb 50 Sched 18



The Secretary to your
Dev Dept

17

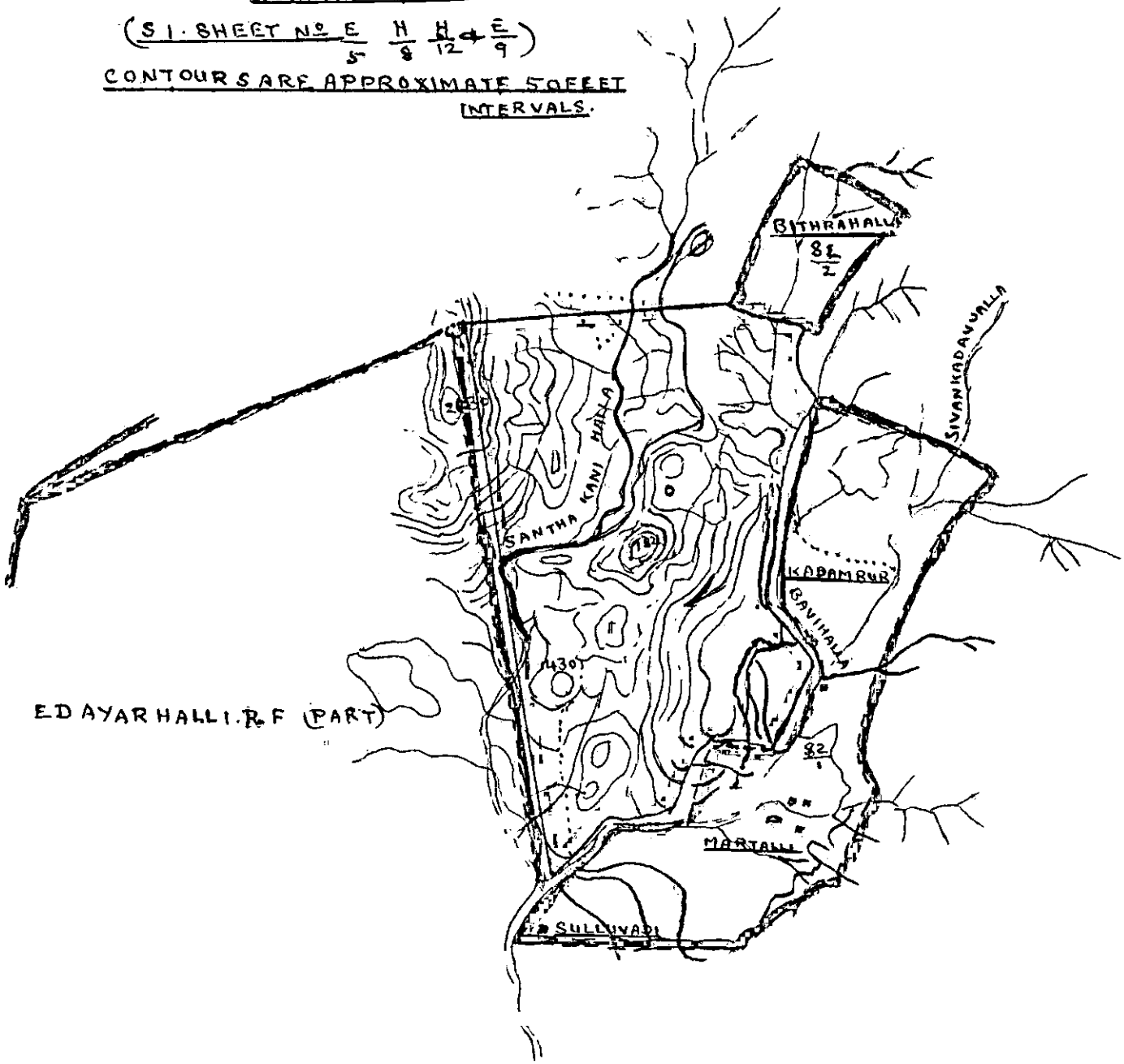
19

RAMAPURAM RANGE
KOLLEGAL FOREST DIVISION
MADESWARANMALLAI R.F (PART)

SCALE 1" = 1 MILE

(S.I. SHEET No. E/5 H/8 H/12 & E/9)

CONTOURS ARE APPROXIMATE 50 FEET INTERVALS.



AREA REQUESTED FOR DISRESERVATION (MADESWARANMALAI R.F)

TRUE COPY
BY ORDER
HEAD CLERK
7/8/61

SD. K A MUDDAYYA
6-12-49
DISTRICT FOREST OFFICER
KOLLEGAL

6.9.50

21

Issue
UD
13.2.51.

Development Department (C.II)

Sub: Forests - Lands - Coimbatore District - Kollegal Division - Udayarahalli R.F. - 4,000 acres - Dis-reservation for cultivation - Experimental Cultivation of 1,000 acres thro' Co-operative Colonisation Society etc. — orders passed.

Ref: Petition dated 21.6.1950 from Rev.Fr.G.Raynand.
From the R.C.S.No.Rc.4656/50 G.II dated 12.7.1950.
From the Collector, Coimbatore Ref.23821/50 dated 28.9.1950.
From the C.C.F. 14247/50-C.4 dated 18.10.1950.

G.O.Ms.No. 679 dated 14/2/51

Government agree with the C.C.F. that the request for assignment of 4,000 acres of land in Udayarahalli R.F. may be rejected.

LCD 11.11.50 KM 13.11.50.

KM 15/11/50.

To

Rev.Fr.G.Raynand,
Marthalli.

To the C.C.F.
R.C.S.
Collector of Coimbatore.

2. The petitioner is however informed that he may apply to the Collector of Coimbatore for the assignment of unreserved waste lands in Kollegal taluk.

S.F. Addl UD 30/12

2 S/Co.

KM 28/1/51

AM 3.1.151.

1/2

23

FIFTH ASSISTANT 21 1951

From
Sri V.N.Rajan.I.C.S.,
Collector of Coimbatore.

The Secretary to Government
(Development Department) Fort St.George,Madras.

23555

Ref. 23821/50 A5 dated 24-2-51

Sir,

Sub:Forests-Reserved forests- Coimbatore district-Kollegal taluk- Marthalli village-Disreservation-Rev. Father G.Raynand-petition connected records return

Ref: This office Ref. A5- 23821/50 dated 28-9-50
Govt.'s order Ms.No.679- dated 24-2-51 (Development Department).

I request that my office L.D's.file No.16195/50 dated 28-7-50 sent as enclosure to my reference first cited may kindly be returned if no longer required.

nr.25.2.51.

for Collector.

By Regd. Post

Dev(Cn)

Memo No. 67306 Cn/ dt 7.3.57

Issue 7.3.57

51/8/3

Sub: Forests - R.F.s. Coimbatore Dn - Kollegal taluk - Mantalli village - Dinneervatam - Rest Fr. G. Raynaud's petn.

L 23 c.f. Ref: From the Coll. Coimbatore Ref. 23821/50-A-5 dt 26.2.57

L. Dis file No. 16195/50 dt 28.7.50 of the Coimbatore Coll's office is returned herewith.

G 2317

To

The Coll. Coimbatore (with ① his original)

Dev. dt 5/3/57 5.3.57

Note The above memo is sent to the Coll's letter cited at p 23 c.f

G 2311

5/3/57 5.3.57

Notes

Development Department (C.II)

G.O.No.67306 C.II/50 Sub: Forests - Lands - Coimbatore District - Kollegal Division - Udayarahalli R.F. - 4,000 acres - Disreservation for cultivation - Experimental Cultivation of 1,000 acres thro' Co-operative Colonisation Society etc.

Ref: D.O.No.Nil dated 15.7.1950 from Hon'ble Sri J.L.P. Roche Victoria, Minister for Food and Fisheries,
Petition dated 21.6.50 from Rev.Fr.G.Raynald.
Issued as Endt.No.67306 C.II/50-1 dated 29.7.1950.
From the R.C.S. Rc.4656/50 G.II dated 12.7.1950.
Issued as Memo.No.64289 B.II/50-11 dated 16.9.1950.
From the Collector, Coimbatore Ref.23821/50 dated 28.9.1950.
From the C.C.F. Ref.No.14247/50 C, dated 18.10.50.

...

To A.S.

The D.O. letter from H.M.Food at p.1 c.f., the petition from Rev.Fr.G.Raynad at pp.3-7 c.f., the letter from the R.C.S. at pp. 9-10 c.f. and the C.C's remarks at pp.15-18 c.f. may be perused.

In his petition Rev.Fr.G.Raynad states that the Marthalli Village in Kollegal Division extends to 3496 acres of Govt. lands of which 3,000 acres are cultivated. The remaining 496 acres are unfit for any improvement as they are full of rocks and big stones. Adjoining this village there is about 4,000 acres of land, which forms part of Udayarhalli R.F. Rev.Fr.Raynad has requested for the disreservation and assignment of this R.F. lands for cultivation on behalf of the villagers. A sketch of this area is at p.19 c.f. and may be perused.

The R.C.S. who accompained H.M.(Food & Fisheries) during the tour over these areas has detailed the representations of the villagers at pp.9-10 c.f. He has suggested as a measure of caution that an extent of 1000 acres might be disreserved for the present and taken up for cultivation by the villagers thro' a Co-operative Colonisation Society. He states that H.M.(Food) was also of the same opinion.

The remarks of the Collector on a copy of Fr. Raynald's petition is at p.13 c.f. and may be perused. He says that the District Forest Officer, Kollegal strongly objected to the disafforestation and that the Board of

Revenue did not recommend the disreservation of forests recommended by the Collector for political sufferers and the disreservation of this block will cause dissatisfaction among the political sufferers. He therefore informed the petitioner that the question of disreservation of the 'Reserved Forest' area could not be taken up and that the lands available in waste-blocks of Kollegal Taluk might be applied for.

The C.C's remarks in this request is at pp.15-18 c.f. and it may be perused. The D.F.O. Kollegal reports that the land i.. question is undulating country and not level. Two big streams run through the area which jointly form Martalli stream which drain itself to Palar which finally joins the river Cauvery to form the Stanley Reservoir.

The D.F.O. states that the size of the two streams on the area in question and their present semi-perennial nature speak to itself on the fallacy of our past actions in disafforestation both at ~~understand~~ Martalli and Bitharalli a neighbouring enclosure. He understands that the water table has been falling down year after year and water is going very deep in the wells. The reason is quite apparent and is certainly due to the large disafforestation already made and bad hacking of the adjacent hill slopes by these settle..

Generally all the results of conservation of Forests is not felt on the plateaus but the rich crops that are harvested in the plains stretching from the foot of these plateaus are solely dependent on what is done on the plateaus. Thus if we confine ourselves to these enclosures on the plateau and go on disafforesting and destroying forest growth, the plains below are bound to suffer. Besides this particular area being in the catchment area of the Palar basin it vitally affects the Stanley Reservoir on which the Government has banked its faith in irrigating large areas. Thus according to the D.F.O. any disafforestation on these plateaus will be a short sighted policy.

The D.F.O. points out that the Madras State has only about 12½% of its area under forest cover. The importance of

of raising to at least 20% and thus safe guard the future prosperity of the country is the policy of the Government evidenced by "Vana Mahotsava". The importance of increasing the forest area is well understood and the fate of any such forest area not under the direct control and management of the forest department, is also well known to all from what has happened to Panchayat Forests.

The D.F.O. states that the applicant's plea that the villagers lost their land in the Mettur Dam, cannot be accepted at this late stage as genuine as it is already about 20 years since the Mettur Dam was constructed. The Government disreserved nearly about 4,000 acres of land in Pachapali North Bargur Reserved Forest and Lakkampatti Reserves, besides about 12,000 to 15,000 acres of lands on the opposite bank of Cauvery on the Dharmapuri-Mecheri Side. Some lands were also disreserved at Gopinatham in this division. All these lands were allotted to those who lost their lands in the Stanley Reservoir. The Government ~~have~~ ordered that these men should be allotted ~~to those who lost their lands in the Stanley Reservoir~~ in the above said areas at the rate of 5 acres per head. ~~This has been further clarified in G.O.No. 1901 Revenue dated 13.7.1949.~~ The D.F.O also states that the ~~The~~ real truth is that many of these exodus people of Cauvery bank were allotted lands in the above mentioned disreserved areas but they sold such lands to some capitalists for gain with the idea of seeking more lands elsewhere. There are also some capitalists who have each about 50 to 100 acres of lands in Omalur Taluk settled down in these parts. The D.F.O says that they are behind this petition, so that they could forcibly squat and grab a big slice immediately some allotment is made. It is also reported that such instances have happened in the Lakkampatty area and that the Revenue Department has not yet succeeded in throwing out such unauthorised occupants.

The D.F.O. therefore recommends that in the interest of the public in general, no more disreservation should be

4

be made anywhere in the plateau. He also adds that a similar petition was sent to the Collector of Coimbatore for the above lands, which was rejected by him on the remarks offered by his predecessor (Vide copy of Collector's order at p.17 c.f.).

The C.C.F. agrees that this is an important catchment area of streams running into the Cauvery river which finds its way into the Mettur reservoir. He states that clearing of forests in such an area cannot be thought of. The displaced persons were allotted lands by extensive disreservation elsewhere. ~~The District Forest Officer points out that some of these lands have already changed hands to rich capitalists and that there are some capitalists owning 50-100 acres of lands in Omalur Taluk who have settled down in Marthahalli who are behind this petition and are waiting for an opportunity to acquire more lands.~~ We consider that there are vast extents of unreserved lands in Kollegal Taluk fo which the petitioners may apply to the Revenue Department. The Conservator is also opposed to disreservation. Further, the petitioners request had already been rejected by the Collector of Coimbatore who advised them to apply for lands in waste blocks if they desired.

In these circumstances the C.C.F has not consulted the C.E. (General) and recommends that the petition may be rejected. For orders whether this recommendation may be accepted. Subject to orders a draft order is submitted.

Revenue, F & A, P.W.D and Finance may see before circulation.

I D enclosed.

I X

2 P 17 1
2 NOV 1950
REVENUE DEPARTMENT

Rev 80316

Rev 28781

2 NOV 1950
REVENUE DEPARTMENT

LEO 11-11-50 KM 13.11.50 15/11/50 AS IV CPS 18.11.50

Rev IV/S/F.D

Rev m/14/11 14/11/50

25/11

2 Le petition deserves no consideration and may be rejected

23 NOV 1950
REVENUE DEPARTMENT

24.11.50

Rev / FA / PWD / Fin

5 Rev dept

To A.S.

Please see the Rev notes from pp 1 ante and the draft order ~~below~~ below with reference to X on p 4 ante, it is submitted, that it is open for the petitioner to apply for the assignment of the waste lands to the Collector of Coimbatore. If the lands are available for assignment and if the petitioners are eligible, the Coll will no doubt assign them to the petitioners. ~~No action is therefore called for in this dept~~. The file may be passed on F & A

29.11.50

30/11/50 Rev 2.12.50 / F & A.

29.11.50

Food & Agri (A2)

Rev No 80316 F/50-1

2 12 50

and the draft below it may be perused and the file passed on to P. & D.

Notes from pp 1-5 above

5 DEC 1950

Govt of Madras

6/12/50

6.12.50

Rev. will no doubt [illegible] | P to F. The file to A III (Food) as well.

11.12.50.

Rev No 80316 F/50-1 Section

7/12/50 7.12.50

sd 8/12/50

A.S. III

P.W.D.

F & A (F. P) also

Sec

14/12/50

D.S

7.12.50 F & A (CR)

F & A C F P J

F & P. 80574 R/50-1

8/12/50

39334

19 DEC 1950

FOOD & AGRICULTURE

TO

A S (FPJ)

The file relates to the request

PTO

5 - 6 -

On Rev Fr. G Raynaud for the disreservation and assignment of 4000 acres of lands in Udayarahalli R.F

The notes at pp 1-5 ante may be perused. This dept. may agree with 'Z' on page 4 ante and 'Y' on page 5 ante and pass on the file to P.W. Department

SECRETARY BOARD OF REVENUE
DEC 1950
FOOD PRODUCTION

P.W.D (I).

A.S.

F & A (F P)

Notes from page 1 ante may be perused. U.O.No 39334/50 Dated 29-12-50
'Z' on p 4 ante agreed to in this Dept. and the file passed on to Fin. (The file relates to the request for assignment of land in Reserved forest area in Kollegal to whose whose lands have been acquired in connection with the Cauvery Mettur Project. It is proposed to reject the request).

J
30 DEC 1950
PUBLIC WORKS

P.W.D. U.O.
6368 J/50-1
16.1.51.

Finance (Accts)

The case relates to the request of Rev. Fr. G. Raynad for the disreservation and assignment of 4000 acres of land in Udayarahalli R.F. (Coimbatore Dt.). The notes on pp 1-4 above, which explain the case, may be perused.

4651/Accts
16 JAN 1951
FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Para 2, p. 5 c.f.

(F. No. 6726)

Dept propose to reject the request of the petitioner. Rev Deptt. have stated that it is open for the petitioner to apply for the assignment of the waste lands to the collector of Coimbatore, and that if the lands are available for assignment and if the petitioners are eligible, the collector will no doubt assign them to the petitioners. F&A and P.W.D. agree to the proposal of Dept. Finance may also agree.

18/1/51 PW
19.1.51

Fin no 4651 Accts/51-1

18 JAN 1951

DEVELOPMENT DEPT

Dev Cell

Development Department

This file deals with the request of Rev. F. G. Raynad on behalf of the villagers of Marthalli, Kollegal Taluk, for disreservation and assignment of 4,000 acres of forest land in Udayarahalli R.F. (Coimbatore District) fo cultivation. Notes on pp. 1-4 ante fully explain the case In the circumstances stated therein, this Department propose to reject the request of the petitioner. Revenue Department have stated that it is open for the petitioner to apply to the Collector of Coimbatore for the assignment of unreserved waste lands in Kollegal Taluk. F & A. P.W. and Finance Departments have also agreed with the views of this Department and Revenue Department mentioned above. With reference to Revenue Department's suggestion at 'A' above, another para has been added to the draft order below.

The file may now be circulated to H.M. (Prohn), H.M. (Rood) and H.M. (L.R.) for approval of the draft order

8

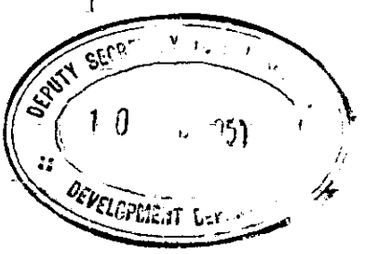
67356 cm/50
46
1/2

below (as amended in pencil):-

30/1/57 30/1/57 - 31/1/57. S

H.M (Prelim) -
H.M (Final)
H.M (E.R)

(1 x) He may apply for
(2 x) waste land



[Issued as P.O No. 679 Dev dt 14.2.57] 21-F.